

## Message Text

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12

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 EUR-25 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 SR-02 ORM-03 DRC-01

CU-04 /147 W

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R 310631Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0988

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L AMMAN 1639

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, PFOR, JO, IS

SUBJ: ISRAELI LAND PURCHASING ON WEST BANK

REF: JERUSALEM 471

1. SUMMARY: JORDAN PRESS HAS MADE MAJOR ISSUE OF CURRENT ISRAELI LAND PURCHASE ON WEST BANK REPORTED REFTEL. END SUMMARY.

2. JORDAN SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY AL DUSTOUR MARCH 30 PUBLICIZED LONG ARTICLE UNDER FRONT PAGE BANNER HEADLINE "A NEW ISRAELI CRIME COMMITTED IN JERUSALEM: THE ENEMY CONFISCATES 3,000 DUNUMS OF ARAB LAND". ARTICLE REPORTED THAT ISRAELIS ARE TRYING TO EXPROPRIATE ARAB LAND SURROUNDING JERUSALEM AIRPORT ON PRETEXT ENLARGING AIRPORT. (IN ADDITION TO PREVIOUSLY CONFISCATED ARAB LAND SOUTH OF AIRPORT ON PRETEXT OF BUILDING ISRAELI INDUSTRIAL ZONE NEAR JERUSALEM-RAMALLAH-AL JIB CROSSROADS).

3. ARTICLE INDICATED THE ISRAELIS HAVE CONFISCATED 3,000 DUNUMS ARAB LAND ON BOTH SIDES JERUSALEM-JERICHO ROAD. DISCOVERY MADE LAST WEEK WHEN GOI PREVENTED ARAB OWNER GEORGE SABAT FROM  
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CONSTRUCTING ON HIS LAND THERE. OTHER OWNERS MENTIONED: JAMIL

SALAMEH(HOUSING SCHEME), KHADR ABN SWAYY, FAYEQ BARAKAT. AREA MENTIONED: JERUSALEM, AL IZARIEYYEH, ABU DEES AND ADJACENT AREA. ARAB OWNERS HAD NOT BEEN PREVIOUSLY INFORMED OF CONFISCATION. ARTICLE STATED THAT GOI, BY PREVENTING ARAB HOUSING CONSTRUCTION ON EVEN SOUTHERN SIDE OF JERUSALEM, NOW THREATENS TO ENTIRELY ENCIRCLE JERUSALEM WITH ISRAELI OCCUPANTS. ARTICLE QUOTED JERUSALEM NEWSPAPER ASH SHA'B THAT ARAB OWNERS PLAN RESORT TO COURTS TO RESIST CONFISCATION NOTICE.

4. AL DUSTOUR EDITORIAL ENTITLED "THE NEW STEP IN JERUSALEM" STATED THAT JERUSALEM-JERICHO ROAD CONFISCATION IS CONTRARY TO CURRENT MIDEAST PEACE EFFORTS AND MUST BE STOPPED IMMEDIATELY". EDITORIAL CONCLUDES: "CONFISCATION OF ARAB LANDS IN JERUSALEM WILL ONLY CREATE OBSTACLES TO SETTLEMENT, SINCE JERUSALEM IS CORNERSTONE OF MIDEAST PEACE."

6. COMMENT: WE ASSUME ABOVE ARTICLE REFERS TO SAME PROPERTY TRANSACTIONS ON JERUSALEM-JERICHO ROAD REFERRED TO IN JERUSALEM 471 (WE NOTE HOWEVER THAT JORDANIAN PRESS CALLED TRANSFERS "CONFISCATIONS" WHILE EAST JERUSALEM ARAB NOTABLE ANWAR KHATIB DESCRIBED THEM (REFTEL) AS PURCHASES FROM ARABS BY PRIVATE ISRAELIS).

7. THIS LATEST INCIDENT CROWNS A RISING WAVE OF JORDANIAN OFFICIAL, ECCLESIASTICAL AND PUBLIC CONCERN OVER CURRENT ISRAELI ACTIONS IN JERUSALEM. IN ADDITION TO OTHER RECENT JORDANIAN PRESS ARTICLES ON ISRAELI LAND PURCHASES NEAR JERUSALEM, CURRENT INCIDENT FOLLOWS MARCH 20 APPEAL BY HEAD OF GOJ ROYAL COMMISSION FOR JERUSALEM (AHMAD TOUQAN) TO UN AND UNESCO TO STOP ISRAELI EXCAVATIONS IN JERUSALEM WHICH ALLEGEDLY THREATEN ISLAMIC MONUMENTS ADJOINING WESTERN WALL.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** LAND SETTLEMENT, PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, LAND NATIONALIZATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 MAR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Reference:** JERUSALEM 471  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Date:** 08 MAY 2002  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ISRAELI LAND PURCHASING ON WEST BANK  
**TAGS:** PBOR, PFOR, JO, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005